

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM NATO DATED FEBRUARY 20, 1976
SENT SECSTATE WASHDC, SEC DEF WASHDC, INFO CNO WASHDC IS
REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE
UNCLAS USNATO 922

CNO FOR OP-098F

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO, MILI

SUBJ: NATO HYDROFOIL FAST PATROL CRAFT - GUIDED MISSILE
(NATO PHM)

1. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF A REUTER'S NEWS RELEASE
PUBLISHED BY THE NATO PRESS SERVICE 18 FEB 76:

BEGIN TEXT:

WASHINGTON: THE U.S. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT YESTERDAY DISCLOSED
A MAJOR CUT IN PLANS TO BUILD OCEAN-GOING HYDROFOIL MISSILE
SHIPS WITH WEST GERMANY AND ITALY. THE CUTS COULD KILL THE
WHOLE PROJECT. (RUETER)
END TEXT.

2. THE NATO PHM PROGRAM IS A NATO COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT AND, AS WITH ALL SUCH COOPERATIVE ENDEAVORS, IS WATCHED
CLOSELY HERE. THE IMPLICATION IN THE RUETER'S RELEASE IS THAT
THE PROJECT IS IN JEOPARDY. REQUEST WASHINGTON PROVIDE A
SUMMARY STATUS OF THE NATO PHM PROGRAM AND ITS FUTURE IN THE
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LIGHT OF THE ALLEGED BUDGET CUTS. ACTION

REQUESTED: WASHINGTON SUMMARY OF THE STATUS OF THE NATO
PHM PROGRAM AND GUIDANCE IN RESPONDING TO POSSIBLE INQUIRES.
STREATOR UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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